

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The 35 USC 112 1st and 2nd rejections are withdrawn in view of amendment to the claims. The 35 USC 102 rejection is withdrawn in view of the cancellation of claim 19 and 20. As such, the prior art does not teach or suggest the novel method of detecting elevated LMO4 by the antibody in a biological sample as compared to the normal control to indicate breast cancer growth.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lei Yao, Ph.D., whose telephone number is 571-272-3112. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-6.00pm Monday-Thursday.

Any inquiry of a general nature, matching or file papers or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Kim Downing for Art Unit 1642 whose telephone number is 571-272-0521.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Helms can be reached on 571-272-0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Lei Yao/
Examiner, Art Unit 1642

/Larry R. Helms/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1643